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Adoption of the agenda and organization of work: reports of the General Committee

Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development

Letter dated 7 July 1999 from the Deputy Permanent Representative of Chile to the United Nations, in his capacity as Chairman of the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly on the Implementation of the Outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and Further Initiatives, addressed to the President of the Assembly

As you will recall, the General Assembly, in its resolutions 50/161 and 51/202 decided, *inter alia*, to hold a special session in the year 2000 to review the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and consider further initiatives. The Assembly also decided to establish a preparatory committee of the whole of the General Assembly.

The Preparatory Committee held its first substantive session at United Nations Headquarters between 17 and 28 May 1999. Twelve plenary meetings, as well as many informal meetings, were held. In addition, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 53/28, the Preparatory Committee established an open-ended working group, which met between 24 and 28 May 1999.

The plenary session of the Preparatory Committee held extensive negotiations on working papers that I submitted in my capacity as Chairman of the Committee, and working papers submitted by Koos Richelle of the Netherlands, Vice-Chairman of the Committee. The working papers contained various proposals dealing with the review and appraisal of the outcome of the World Summit and further initiatives.

The Working Group held negotiations on a series of proposals prepared by its chairman, Ambassador Ion Gorita of Romania, Vice-Chairman of the Committee, relating

* In order for the General Assembly to consider the request, it will be necessary to reopen the consideration of item 37 of the agenda of the fifty-third session.

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to the organization of the special session, including arrangements for the participation of non-governmental organizations in the session.

In view of the complexity and breadth of the topics that the special session will consider and the diversity of views in that regard, the Preparatory Committee decided to hold further informal consultations prior to its second session, which will be held from 3 to 14 April 2000. In particular, the Committee decided to continue to examine the subject of accreditation and arrangements for the participation of non-governmental organizations in the special session, in open-ended informal consultations that will be held between 30 August and 3 September 1999, with a view to adopting decisions at a resumed session to be held before the end of 1999.

The Bureau of the Preparatory Committee also held consultations on a substantive text; however, the Committee was unable to complete its negotiations on that text at its recent session. As a result of the success of those consultations, which produced a consensus text, the Bureau has requested me to hold a resumed half-day session during the week beginning 12 July 1999.

In the light of the foregoing, the Preparatory Committee requests the General Assembly at its fifty-third session to authorize the holding of a short resumed session in order to enable it to formalize the consensus agreements that have been reached and to finish its work on time. I am firmly convinced that the half-day session will give the Preparatory Committee an opportunity to conclude important negotiations without further deferring recommendations on action, which are essential to its final session in the year 2000.

I thank you in advance for supporting this request and bringing it to the attention of the General Assembly for prompt action.

(*Signed*) Cristián **Maquieira**
Ambassador
Chairman of the Preparatory Committee